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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/550,312	09/22/2005	Tomomasa Kojo	S1459.70085US00	5773

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EXAMINER

LEE IV, THOMAS E

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

4142

MAIL DATE

DELIVERY MODE

08/13/2008

PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/550,312

Applicant(s)

KOJO ET AL.

Examiner

THOMAS LEE

Art Unit

4142

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 16 August 2006.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-6 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-6 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☒ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 22 September 2005 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☒ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/85/08)
- Paper No(s)/Mail Date See Continuation Sheet
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
- Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Inventor's Patent Application
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

Continuation of Attachment(s) 3). Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08), Paper No(s)/Mail Date :03/06/2007, 10/30/2006, 08/24/2006, 09/22/2005.

DETAILED ACTION

1. Claims 1-6 are pending.

Specification

2. Applicant is reminded of the proper language and format for an abstract of the disclosure.

The abstract should be in narrative form and generally limited to a single paragraph on a separate sheet within the range of 50 to 150 words. It is important that the abstract not exceed 150 words in length since the space provided for the abstract on the computer tape used by the printer is limited. The form and legal phraseology often used in patent claims, such as "means" and "said," should be avoided. The abstract should describe the disclosure sufficiently to assist readers in deciding whether there is a need for consulting the full patent text for details.

The language should be clear and concise and should not repeat information given in the title. It should avoid using phrases which can be implied, such as, "The disclosure concerns," "The disclosure defined by this invention," "The disclosure describes," etc.

In addition, according to MPEP section § 608.01(c) "The sheet or sheets presenting the abstract may not include other parts of the application or other material." Therefore, the drawing references should be removed.

3. The title of the invention is not descriptive. A new title is required that is clearly indicative of the invention to which the claims are directed.

The following title is suggested: Management and Display Method for Network Connection of Electronic Apparatus.

4. The use of the trademark "LINUX" has been noted in this application. It should be capitalized wherever it appears and be accompanied by the generic terminology.

Although the use of trademarks is permissible in patent applications, the proprietary nature of the marks should be respected and every effort made to prevent their use in any manner which might adversely affect their validity as trademarks.

5. The disclosure is objected to because of the following informalities:

- "Ethernet" in paragraph 5 of page 6 states that Ethernet is a registered trademark. Ethernet, due to the standardization by IEEE, no longer maintains registered trademark status.

Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Objections

6. Claims 1-2 and 4-5 are objected to because of the following informalities:

- "there" in claim 1, line 4 is not clear, thus making the claim indefinite;
- "there" in claim 1, line 8 is not clear, thus making the claim indefinite;
- "there" in claim 2, line 2 is not clear, thus making the claim indefinite;
- "there" in claim 4, line 7 is not clear, thus making the claim indefinite;
- "there" in claim 4, line 11 is not clear, thus making the claim indefinite; and
- "there" in claim 5, line 2 is not clear, thus making the claim indefinite.

Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

7. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

8. Claims 1-6 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Aoki et al. (U.S. Publication No. 2002/0047862 A1).

With respect to claim 1, Aoki teaches the management for connection to a network in which an electronic apparatus including an access controller for detecting the connection or the non-connection to a network cable (i.e., the signal processing section controls the operations of access to the network, paragraph 0086) and a micro-computer is used (i.e., the main body processing section includes a CPU, paragraph 0091), said method comprising carrying out, in executing an application, a first check as to whether or not there is any malfunction pertinent to the network connection, by detecting the a state of electrical connection of said network cable responsive to a detection output of said access controller (i.e., the signal processing section detects errors such as cable pulling in or out and relays this to the main processing section, paragraph 0088); carrying out a second check, by said access controller, as to whether or not the linkage to said network is normal if, as a result of said first check, there is no malfunction pertinent to the network connection (i.e., the signal processing section

detects error information with regards to network operations while making a distinction between an error of the receiving system on the network and an error within the device, paragraph 90); and carrying out accessing of said application to said network if, as a result of said second check, the linkage to said network is normal (i.e., the checks are performed and can be changed in logical order and upon completion of the network checks, if no error is detected, processing continues, paragraph 0187).

With respect to claim 2, Aoki teaches the management for connection to a network according to claim 1 wherein, if, as a result of said first check, there is malfunction in said network connection, this fact is displayed, and wherein if, as a result of said second check, there is malfunction in a linkage to said network, this fact is displayed (i.e., the main body processing section determines the most appropriate error message to display in regards to the connection state and displays the message, paragraph 0092-0095).

With respect to claim 3, Aoki teaches the management for connection to a network according to claim 1 wherein the application carries out said first and second checks at a preset time interval (i.e., the checks are processed in an ordered fashion able to be controlled by the signal processing section at appropriately determined time intervals, figures 20-23 and paragraph 0174, or upon the instantiation of some event to the connection, such as a cable pulling out, paragraph 0088).

With respect to claim 4, Aoki teaches an electronic comprising a connector jack for connection to a network cable; an access controller for detecting the connection or non-connection of said network cable to said connector jack (i.e., the signal processing

section controls the operations of access to the network, paragraph 0086); and a micro-computer; said micro-computer carrying out, in executing an application (i.e., the main body processing section includes a CPU, paragraph 0091), a first check as to whether or not there is any malfunction pertinent to connection to the network, by detecting the state of electrical connection of said network cable, responsive to a detection output of said access controller (i.e., the signal processing section detects errors such as cable pulling in or out and relays this to the main processing section, paragraph 0088); carrying out a second check, by said access controller, as to whether or not the linkage to said network is normal if, as a result of said first check, there is no malfunction pertinent to the network connection (i.e., the signal processing section detects error information with regards to network operations while making a distinction between an error of the receiving system on the network and an error within the device, paragraph 90); and carrying out accessing of said application to said network if, as a result of said second check, the linkage to said network is normal (i.e., the checks are performed and can be changed in logical order and upon completion of the network checks, if no error is detected, processing continues, paragraph 0187).

With respect to claim 5, Aoki teaches the management for connection to a network according to claim 1 wherein, if, as a result of said first check, there is malfunction in said network connection, this fact is displayed, and wherein if, as a result of said second check, there is malfunction in a linkage to said network, this fact is displayed (i.e., the main body processing section determines the most appropriate error

message to display in regards to the connection state and displays the message, paragraph 0092-0095).

With respect to claim 6, Aoki teaches the management for connection to a network according to claim 1 wherein the application carries out said first and second checks at a preset time interval (i.e., the checks are processed in an ordered fashion able to be controlled by the signal processing section at appropriately determined time intervals, figures 20-23, or upon the instantiation of some event to the connection, such as a cable pulling out, paragraph 0088).

9. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to THOMAS LEE whose telephone number is (571) 270-7292. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday to Friday, 7:30am - 5:00pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, James Hwang can be reached on (571) 272-4036. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Thomas Lee
Patent Examiner
Art Unit 4242

7/30/2008

/Joon H. Hwang/
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 4142